



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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For the week ending July 15, 2012

DROUGHT NOT OVER BUT WIDESPREAD, PLENTIFUL PRECIPATATION RECEIVED!

Soaking rainfall and lower temperatures characterized the conditions which greeted farmers last week. The drought is not broken as some areas of the state experienced only light-to-moderate precipitation. Overall, state crop condition ratings improved, especially for soybeans. However, the corn condition rating, although improved, continued to point to a season with over half the acreage in a heavy or extreme loss of yield situation. Some renewed optimism now exists for soybeans, cotton and tobacco which are rated in mostly fair or good condition. The main farm activities last week included pesticide application, topping tobacco, harvesting silage, feeding livestock, hauling water and scouting fields.

There were 3.5 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 12 percent very short, 31 percent short, 52 percent adequate and 5 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 30 percent very short, 35 percent short, 34 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures averaged near normal this past week. Rainfall amounts were well above normal for the entire state with the exception of West Tennessee where near normal amounts fell.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Silking or Beyond	96	93	80	86	Corn	25	30	27	17	1
Corn – Dough or Beyond	50	21	20	23	Cotton	5	14	35	43	3
Corn Silage – Harvested	24	10	0	0	Pastures	34	34	24	8	0
Cotton – Squaring	84	76	81	89	Soybeans	10	17	39	32	2
Cotton – Setting Bolls	37	17	20	27	Tobacco	4	19	51	25	1
Soybeans – Blooming	62	43	38	46						
Soybeans – Setting Pods	30	17	10	19						
Tobacco – Topped	22	12	13	13						

Top and Subsoil Moisture Definitions:

- ❖ **Very Short** - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- ❖ **Short** - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- ❖ **Adequate** - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- ❖ **Surplus** - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

County Agent Comments

“Some areas received much needed rain this week but many areas still need more. Later planted corn has suffered the most due to drought conditions. Showers were helpful to earliest planted beans and young wheat beans will benefit the most.”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“Much needed rain fell across the county late last week into early this week. Amounts ranged from 1" to 4". The rain has extended the life of soybeans, but was too late to help most corn acres. Cloudy weather and cooler temperatures brought much better crop conditions compared to the previous month. Some producers started replanting double-crop soybeans that had emerged and then died in the extreme heat and drought conditions. Several acres of corn silage have also been harvested. Some producers are considering mowing down corn stalks and replanting to soybeans due to extremely low yield prospects.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“3-6 inches of rainfall and lower temperatures over the last few days will hopefully help pastures to improve. The corn crop suffered irreversible yield loss. However, late soybeans and dark tobacco have made drastic improvements this week.”

Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County

“The moisture we are getting this week is in the form of a good soaking rain. Over two inches has fallen on most of the county. Mostly too late to do corn much good but very helpful for soybeans and pasture. Disaster committee has determined corn loss to be 70% of normal yields.”

Kevin Rose, Giles County

“Good rain for the week with some areas seeing good moisture for two weeks in a row. Rain showers from Monday thru Thursday produced good general soaking rains across the County totaling from 1.5 to three inches plus. A few isolated areas saw over four inches of rain. The much needed rain has helped cool temperatures, green pastures, and breathes new hope for soybean and cotton yields. The moistures will help some corn add weight, but basically the crop is done and a number of producers think they will start shelling some corn by month's end.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Thundershowers on Tuesday and scattered showers through Friday brought much-needed moisture. Amounts across the county ranged from several tenths to a few inches in the mountainous portion. Many livestock ponds are at critically low levels and some have dried up. Also and as a result of the drought, several farmers have drilled new and deeper water wells in order to meet farmstead and livestock watering needs. Crops, pasture and hay are still in dire need of additional rains.”

John Wilson, Blount County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION

For week ending: July 15, 2012 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending July 15, 2012				Current Week 7/15/12	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	91	69	78	-2	2.33	5	22.38	-7.89	11.88	-4.44
Brownsville_TN	92	69	79	-3	1.33	5	18.50	-11.77	8.26	-8.05
Covington	91	69	77	-3	1.16	3	18.91	-11.08	6.77	-9.36
Dyersburg	93	72	79	-2	0.98	6	16.44	-12.13	7.30	-8.29
Huntingdon_Wate	97	70	78	-1	3.05	5	20.32	-9.63	11.63	-4.44
Jackson_Exp_Stn	97	69	78	-1	3.33	5	21.29	-8.93	10.35	-6.44
Lexington_TN	95	69	77	-3	2.19	6	21.22	-7.86	10.07	-5.66
Martin	96	70	79	0	2.14	6	19.42	-10.61	8.66	-7.96
Memphis_AG	89	71	79	-5	1.24	7	23.86	-5.61	12.81	-2.99
Milan	91	68	78	-1	4.44	6	20.93	-9.95	10.42	-6.67
Paris	92	69	77	-1	5.21	7	21.34	-7.87	11.64	-3.89
Savannah_6SW	93	69	78	-2	2.32	6	27.06	-5.97	14.10	-3.29
Selmer	95	70	80	2	3.49	5	26.74	-5.98	13.95	-3.35
Union_City	92	69	78	-1	1.87	7	18.61	-10.92	9.01	-7.17
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	92	70	78	0	1.51	6	15.09	-13.38	5.71	-8.94
Cookeville	99	68	77	2	2.92	4	24.50	-7.51	9.37	-7.44
Crossville_AP	93	66	76	3	3.20	5	25.56	-6.14	11.05	-5.45
Dickson_AG	89	68	77	-2	2.72	4	22.18	-8.55	10.38	-6.17
Dover_1W	96	70	79	2	2.62	5	20.10	-9.55	9.41	-6.17
Fayetteville_TN	93	69	79	3	2.39	7	24.27	-6.87	9.28	-6.41
Jamestown	93	66	75	2	3.96	7	28.20	-2.59	12.48	-4.32
Kingston_Spring	96	70	79	3	2.19	7	22.10	-7.19	11.15	-4.01
Lewisburg	99	68	79	3	1.85	5	18.20	-13.27	7.51	-9.22
Livingston_WLIV	101	67	76	1	2.71	7	24.08	-5.47	7.83	-8.05
Lobelville	97	70	79	2	1.97	5	19.81	-12.12	9.18	-7.59
Murfreesboro_5N	100	68	78	0	4.24	7	23.22	-6.76	11.11	-4.93
Nashville_Metro	100	70	79	0	5.36	7	23.91	-3.20	12.86	-1.86
Oneida	96	67	76	4	2.35	5	29.40	-1.49	12.50	-4.37
Portland_TN	99	69	78	2	3.63	7	22.15	-7.44	10.47	-5.66
Pulaski_Water_P	100	67	78	-1	3.01	6	22.49	-8.98	11.26	-4.64
Shelbyville	93	70	79	2	3.22	7	23.62	-7.72	9.70	-6.59
Sparta_TN	101	68	79	4	2.45	5	20.20	-10.95	7.22	-9.21
Springfield	98	69	78	1	3.52	7	27.34	-1.10	15.65	0.24
Springhill	103	64	77	-1	4.85	7	22.58	-9.00	11.49	-5.30
Tullahoma	93	70	79	3	3.10	7	22.99	-9.61	9.62	-6.84
Waynesboro_TN	90	67	77	0	1.58	6	27.62	-5.53	15.78	-1.41
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	99	71	81	3	3.23	4	23.70	-6.75	9.37	-5.18
Cleveland_6NNE	91	70	78	2	3.00	6	20.67	-10.77	9.10	-6.61
Dayton	99	69	78	1	6.21	5	30.01	-1.78	15.68	0.09
Erwin_1W	93	66	75	4	2.62	5	26.59	-1.20	15.89	-0.25
Gatlinburg_2SW	92	65	74	2	3.26	7	35.23	3.43	18.66	0.95
Greeneville	94	67	76	2	1.19	6	26.32	1.96	15.20	1.65
Kingston_AG	99	69	79	4	3.09	6	29.13	-3.95	14.15	-2.68
Knoxville_AP	98	69	78	2	2.59	7	29.16	1.52	13.37	-0.81
Newcomb	99	66	76	4	4.40	6	29.35	-1.54	12.89	-3.98
Norris_4NE	98	67	77	2	2.42	7	28.80	-1.14	12.29	-3.60
Tri-City_RGNL_A	96	66	76	3	5.02	7	24.03	0.69	13.30	0.44

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) measured in inches.

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